

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

21

DECISION

TOPIC

Publicly Owned Lakes Program - Watershed Eligibility

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the eligible publicly owned lakes list established by the Department in accordance with 571 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 31 which was updated and approved by the Commission on March 13, 2008. The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship's Division of Soil Conservation manages the Publicly Owned Lakes Program, which makes funds available to private landowners to install approved permanent soil conservation practices in the watersheds above the identified publicly owned lakes. The Department is responsible to recommend to the Commission for designation those publicly owned lakes and watersheds for both natural lakes and constructed lakes utilizing criteria established in administrative rule.

Funds for the Program come from appropriations to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and grants are available to private landowners mentioned above to fund 75% of total project costs. Funding for fiscal year 2009 is \$350,000.

Twenty-two applications were submitted from 18 Soil and Water Conservation Districts. According to the newly revised rules, they were evaluated on their identification of locations within the watershed that contribute significant sediment to the lake and their plans for the installation of permanent soil conservation practices to eliminate the sources. In accordance with the rules, the Department makes the following recommendations for watershed eligibility in fiscal year 2009 to the Commission:

- Hawthorn Lake, Mahaska County
- Littlefield Lake, Audubon County
- Lake Geode, Des Moines & Henry Counties
- Lake Meyer, Winneshiek County
- Badger Creek Lake, Madison County
- Central Park Lake, Jones County
- Meadow Lake, Adair County

These recommendations have been sent to all Soil and Water Conservation Districts for informational purposes.

Ken Herring, Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
June 12, 2008